

Virginia but either way we in Georgia claim him as one of our most outstanding citizens.

As a young man Bob played an integral volunteer role in the election of the late Congressman Bo Ginn. After Ginn was elected Bob stayed on as a staff member. Knowing the hours he worked and the reality of congressional salaries, I'm sure the compensation was only slightly better than what he made as a volunteer!

He worked grueling hours traveling the state of Georgia, meeting its people and dealing with the issues that most affected them. Along with Congressman Ginn, his successor Lindsay Thomas, and Sen. Sam Nunn, Bob was on the forefront of nearly every major public project for the last five decades. He helped push for the development and expansion of our ports, universities, military installations, countless roads, bridges, airports, and industries. As Georgia grew and prospered Bob never forgot the quality of life in which we all believe. He balanced environmental, rural, and urban dynamics so that generations to come will still be able to know and love the same Georgia in which Bob was reared.

In all of these achievements Bob never cut the ribbon or took the applause. He worked quietly behind the scenes and in most cases crafted the message and wrote the very speeches the elected officials gave as they accepted the accolades.

After his retirement from Congressional life Bob continued his public service as a lobbyist. I always describe Bob as a guy who charged you a dollar when he should've charged you two dollars and always gave you three dollars worth of work. He has been an example for many other public advocates. To Bob the mission is always primary, not the dollars or the political impact.

Bob's wife Virginia and daughters Emma and Louisa have been part of Bob's contribution to a better Georgia. Bob puts his family first yet there been many sacrifices that all of them have made to make Bob a success. I hope Bob stays in the game but whatever the future holds he will be known as the premier and most successful public servant and lobbyist on Capitol Hill.

JACK KINGSTON,
Member of Congress (1993–2015),
First District of Georgia.

□ 1100

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, Bob Hurt is a great Georgian. He is a great American. Most importantly for me, he is a great friend who has helped me tremendously, as he has helped so many people.

I wish him well in his retirement. I know that he will be living in my district. I look forward to representing him. We need more people in this world like Bob Hurt. We need more people in the United States and in Congress like Bob Hurt.

I thank Bob for his tutelage and for all he has done for our great State and for our great Nation.

MEMORIAL GARDEN FOR RETIRED STATUES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. BURCHETT) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, State and local governments across the country are caving to woke demands and removing statues of certain United

States Presidents from their public buildings. Last week, Thomas Jefferson's statue—if you can imagine, Thomas Jefferson's statue—was removed from New York City's City Hall.

Radical leftists want these statues removed because their goal is to erase every part of our Nation's history that doesn't get their stamp of approval. They don't want to see statues of historical figures they don't like. They don't want you to see them, either, Mr. Speaker.

Governments can decide what they want to display in public buildings, but what happens to the statues of Presidents they remove? Will they get covered with a tarp or moved to a dusty corner of a basement somewhere? Or even worse than that, will they decorate our country's landfills?

Instead of taking up space in some storage or waste facility, statues of U.S. Presidents that get removed from government buildings should go to a national memorial garden. That way they can still be viewed by people who want to see them and learn about those who led our country in the past.

In fact, there is a pastor in my district who is a good friend of mine; he is willing to take presidential statues that these politicians don't want. Pastor Clarence Sexton will start the national garden himself at Crown College in Powell, Tennessee, where he serves as president.

Mr. Speaker, he has probably one of the best collections of United States memorabilia that I think I have seen outside of the Smithsonian and has letters and autographs and things from every President since George Washington.

The far left can pretend all it wants that these figures do not exist, but you cannot cancel history, Mr. Speaker.

UFOS ARE OF GREAT PUBLIC INTEREST

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, last summer's UFO report from the Director of National Intelligence was bogus. The report raised more questions than answers about unidentified objects in the skies. It stunk of a government coverup, Mr. Speaker.

Now the Pentagon is starting a new office to collect information on these unidentified objects. The office is called the Airborne Object Identification and Management Synchronization Group. I don't know where they came up with that name. I am sure they paid somebody a lot of money to come up with that.

I do not trust this new office, Mr. Speaker. I don't think it will be transparent with lawmakers or the public about its findings. This is a national security issue. Congress needs to know what is going on so we can respond accordingly.

Today, I am requesting the leaders of this new office bring Members of Congress in on their UFO findings. This is a matter of great public interest and has been for a very long time to a lot of Americans. Our government should not hide the truth from us for another second.

If this new office is to be held accountable, our country will get more reports like the one that came out last summer or, worse, they will be silent and hope we all just forget about the phenomena.

We do not need to fear these airborne unidentified objects. They would have shown themselves to be dangerous a long time ago by now if they were a threat. Our citizens and country can handle the truth, Mr. Speaker.

PROTECTING WOMEN'S FREEDOMS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. LOIS FRANKEL) for 5 minutes.

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, people sometimes ask me what was the greatest moment in my life. I have had a lot of great moments, but I will say three. The first was the birth of my son, Ben, and I would say the next two were the birth of my grandchildren, Ivo and Bruno.

The decision for me to bring Ben into the world, the decision to raise a child, that was a personal decision made by me and my husband, and we didn't have to call a Governor, we didn't call a State legislator, we didn't call our Member of Congress and say, hey, is it time?

Mr. Speaker, I stand here to talk about freedom, freedom of everyone to have the right to make that very, very personal decision of whether or not to bring a child into the world, because we know the raising of a child brings so many blessings but also great responsibility. None of us really know the individual circumstances of other people.

I raise that point today, Mr. Speaker, because as I stand here in the Chamber, across the street at the United States Supreme Court, the Court is hearing a case about a law in Mississippi that would effectively overturn the Roe v. Wade decision that has given women the right to access abortion for the past 50 years.

That Mississippi law is an effort by Republican legislatures, and in this case the Mississippi legislature, to ban abortion. It is about politicians controlling women's bodies. It is about politicians taking away the personal decision of people to access the healthcare that they need.

Mr. Speaker, as I stand here today and have trepidation whether or not the Supreme Court is going to uphold this right to access to abortion, it is a clarion call for the United States Senate across the hall to take up and pass the Women's Health Protection Act, which we passed here in the House. That act would forever protect a woman's right to access a safe, legal abortion. Let freedom ring.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.